

## Housing Champions Meeting | 6/13/2022

Monthly meeting – **second** Monday of each month, 1:30 – 2:30pm Steering Committee to meet from 2:30-3pm. Anyone in this meeting is considered a “housing champion.” If you know a lot of what we’re talking about, please keep coming! Difficult to keep the meeting purely basic OR very in-depth due to variety of experiences.

Email Jen Alfredson to be on the Teams channel: [Jennifer.alfredson@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:Jennifer.alfredson@milwaukeecountywi.gov)

*Helpful terms to know for this meeting: Coordinated Entry (CE); homeless categories*

**Homeless categories** – HUD defines these. Housing always comes down to where you are staying, and what you want. Different situations might make people eligible for other things. **Category is determined by where the individual stayed last night.**

- **Category 1:** Literally homeless. Staying somewhere not meant for human habitation, in a shelter or Safe Haven, in a car, or outside.
- **Category 2:** Those that are not literally homeless but at imminent risk of losing sleeping environment.
  - Doubled up, couch surfing, not having stable sleeping environment or at risk of losing housing within 14 days
  - Staying at a hotel for a few days until they can no longer afford the hotel
  - Evictions issued less than 30 days away.
- **Category 3:** Youth (up to age 26) by any other category without a time limit.
  - Youth program is rapid rehousing, offers up to 24 months of support. Can refer up to the age of 26; may age out of the program and housing would be included with their discharge plan.
- **Category 4:** Person or family fleeing domestic violence, whether they are indoors or outdoors. Recognizes that it might be safer to stay outside than inside a specific home.

There are a few prevention-based programs; help searching for a new place, advocate with landlords, helpful mediation with landlords (IMPACT’s Prevention navigation Program, Cathedral Center, Community Advocates, Guest House are some examples).

## Coordinated Entry (CE) update

- Continue to reach out via calling IMPACT 211 (dial 2-1-1) or emailing us at [ceteam@impactinc.org](mailto:ceteam@impactinc.org).
- Individuals are placed in a housing queue, with documented length of time homeless and a documented disability.
- Professional line phone number (NOT for public/clients): **414-455-1760**. Voice mails answered from 8am-9pm Monday-Sunday.

**Q:** Does the Care Coordinator call, or does the client/consumer call?

**A:** Unless someone wants to transfer to a different shelter, no need to reach out to 211—IMPACT has access to which shelters clients are in.

## **Pathways update** (Kali Daugherty, Milwaukee County)

Referrals for both Safe Haven and Pathways go directly to Kali:

[kaleena.daugherty@milwaukeecountywi.gov](mailto:kaleena.daugherty@milwaukeecountywi.gov)

- **Literally homeless** is prioritized, but not required. 19 men, 8 women, average time here is 6-8 months.

## **Crisis Intervention Housing (CIH) update**

**Full at this time.** For individuals that have a housing plan coming available to them in the next 30 days (maximum 90 days).

If staying at CIH, Category 1 homeless status is maintained. **For referrals, email [Kali](#).**

If you have someone interested in a Cardinal building, **email both [Kali](#) and the [CE email](#).**

1. Will be added to a waitlist
2. Prioritizes literally/chronically homeless, though not required to be homeless to live here
3. Will need to show: ID, birth certificate, social security card, and proof of income.
  - a. Wait times vary. If there is no one up for an open unit with homeless qualification wanting the placement (not always a matter of having an apartment available: must also be a fit for placement, have willingness, and ability to move).
  - b. Document specifically that you're putting them on a waitlist. This may be carried over on their treatment plan, to new staff, etc.

***Tip: add consumers to any waitlist possible!***

## **My Home update** (Jessica Shriver, Program Manager at Milwaukee County Housing Division)

We're finding that our shared consumers are leaving permanent housing and becoming homeless. HUD watches our programs closely: Section 8, My Home, several Rapid Reshousing Programs, and Project-Based Section 8. In almost all of these, if someone is in CARS contracted case management, looking to enhance communication that occurs—particularly with our Category I homeless (street or shelter homeless).

1. Reach out to CARS service manager (Jen, Jackie from CSP, Davide, or Sue Clark); also reach out to Damir, Kali, or Jessica from Housing Division, plus IMPACT 211 so they can connect the individuals appropriately
2. If someone is out of a Section 8 program, communicate it and please be in contact weekly so that someone does not lose a subsidy
3. Contact IMPACT 211 for further resources.
  - a. Contact 211, email a release to [ceteam@impactinc.org](mailto:ceteam@impactinc.org), or by calling IMPACT's professionals line at 414-455-1760 – can choose one form of contact of the three, no need to do all three.

*Section 8 is not permanent supportive housing; it is viewed similarly to the model of My Home. There is different funding because of the pandemic.*

*If someone is not on the Section 8 waiting list with the Housing Division, there is a preference for individuals with Category I homeless (this is the Emergency Housing Voucher program). When regular waiting lists open up, you can apply for housing.*

## **Program highlight: Rapid Rehousing**

Identify, assess, prioritize, and refer into resources.

- Who
  - Category I singles & families qualify
  - Administered by numerous agencies in Milwaukee
  - Has lighter touch case management
- What
  - HUD-style of rental assistance
  - 12-24 months of rental support
  - Tenants pay ~30% of their income to rent
- When
  - Placement and referral is via CE (HUD mandate)
  - Singles: receive 1<sup>st</sup> intervention meeting
  - Families: meet with case manager 2x monthly
  - Youth: meet with case manager 1x monthly
- Where
  - Tenant-based, so not site-specific. A person finds a landlord willing to work with them, typically for 12-24 months. Each agency serves a different population; examples:
    - Guest House, Outreach, Hope House, County Rapid Rehousing
- Why
  - Short-term rental assistance to launch people into their own lease
  - Time for case manager to see if a person needs a bump up to Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)

The way you are connecting people is by connecting them to the CE system. Adding to the housing list, you are putting them into the running for everything they may qualify for at that time.

***What if the person has no income?*** The program would facilitate the complete payment. Case manager may work with them on this.

***How long does it typically take for someone to get called off the list?*** The list is ranked based on **vulnerability criteria**, not chronological time spent on the list. We cannot say how long a person may be on the list—not a traditional waiting list, we prioritize vulnerability. Put your name on the list, but do not have this as the first or only plan.

**You are encouraged to get educated about this program for your consumers! Your expertise is valuable in the meeting with Rapid Rehousing Manager.**

**CARS Housing Policy** is found on the CARS BHD Provider website: [PolicyStat :: PolicyStat](#) as well as the Provider website, which has the Housing Initiative information:

<https://county.milwaukee.gov/EN/DHHS/Provider-Portal/BHD-Providers>

1. Housing Champions should be very familiar with the policy. If you don't feel like an expert on this policy, please read it again.
2. The questionnaire at the bottom of the Housing Initiative section has a questionnaire that IMPACT uses for CE. CE will need written release of information to reach out to that person directly.
  - You can ask your client/consumer the questions listed! Asking saves CE a step of asking client/consumer the question twice. CE wants to know more details later, such as:
    - a. Where they want to go
    - b. Which resources they have already utilized.

**Next meeting: Monday, July 11 1pm-2:30. Steering Committee stays on 2:30-3pm.**

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## Microsoft Teams meeting

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Click here to join the meeting](#)

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